

Prayer Diary

February to March 2025



“Binding up the broken hearted and setting the captives free” Isaiah 61:1



Urban Outreach Bolton



@UrbanOutreachUK



urbanoutreachbolton



UrbanOutreachBolton

www.urbanoutreach.co.uk

Company No. 3019108

Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd February

Throughout 2024 we asked for prayers for a new office. We have experienced a number of options as we are keen to have our administration and face to face delivery close to each other. We commissioned an architect to look at the feasibility of extending the Church/ Amber Centre, this will prove very expensive.

An office has become available very close to the Amber Centre and after much prayer we have put an offer in that has been accepted. We believe somewhere like this, so close to the Amber Centre, provides us with future proof opportunities to develop the vision that God has called us to.

Please would you continue to pray as we progress this purchase and seek the Lord for how He will reveal His plans for us.

Wednesday 5th February

It's a good few weeks since Christmas, but many people will still be recovering from the expense. Escaping debt is very difficult and is one of the major reasons people access Storehouse. Please pray that food will help to ease this burden, and that people will engage with debt help agencies such as Christians against Poverty.

Please pray daily for:-

- **All Urban Outreach staff. For wisdom and protection in the many varied situations they find themselves.**
- **Our Food Hub as we provide food, gas & electric to many vulnerable households each week.**

admin@urbanoutreach.co.uk

01204 385848

www.urbanoutreach.co.uk

Monday 3rd February

We have a number of staff off poorly at present. Please would you pray for healing and wholeness for all those struggling.

Thank you.

Tuesday 4th February

Please pray for those in Bolton Council who make policy decisions that affect the people we work with on a day-to-day basis. Continue to lift these men and women up in prayer that they lead with wisdom and speak out against injustice.

Thursday 6th February

Please pray for a brother and sister who are grieving their dad and how things used to be as he is significantly unwell. Ask God that they may accept the changes that they see, continue to have a positive and loving relationship with their dad and have peace of heart and mind.

Friday 7th February

A young person has moved to a new location. Please ask God for new friendships and the opportunity to flourish in this new season. Pray that she will feel settled and that she may be able to access education provision swiftly and that she will engage with learning. Petition God that her mental health will improve.

<p>Saturday 8th February As the children and families' team take time off this weekend from their busy roles, please ask that God will provide rest and relaxation this day. Thank God for the many ministries that they are involved in across individual churches and praise Him for their service. Pray that God will provide renewal and healing.</p>	<p>Sunday 9th February Please pray for a woman we have supported a number of times over the last few years. She would like to see positive change in her life but feels overwhelmed by how big the changes will need to be. Please pray for strength of mind for her and for her not to be overcome by temptation to use harmful substances.</p>	<p>Monday 10th February We would like to thank God for the changes we have seen in a family that we have been working with for some time. The positive changes we have prayed for together previously have affected not just the women you prayed for but her family as well. Praise God!</p>
<p>Tuesday 11th February Last year Street Life prayed for a gentleman who needed to go into detox for his alcoholism, unfortunately he lost his property. However, we praise God that he is now in a different town, housed, being supported and is close to going into detox. Please pray that this will happen and that he will be set free!</p>	<p>Wednesday 12th February Please pray for all the Families that Street Life are trying to support. Most of them are in very dire situations either experiencing evictions or have been placed in hostels or B&B due to the shortage of housing. Please pray Street Life will be equipped to either resolve the eviction issues or suitable accommodation will be found.</p>	<p>Thursday 13th February As Street Life has mentioned before we see many Refugees/Asylum Seekers come to the Drop-In who have got the right to stay, but given eviction notice of a week to leave their SERCO property and find a place of their own. Pray that in this housing crisis we will be able support them, in their time of need.</p>
<p>Friday 14th February Please thank God for the opportunity the RISE project gives to impact children and teenagers. Pray today for the young people affected by anxiety and struggling with low levels of confidence. Pray particularly for an 11-year-old girl who has been working with RISE. Ask God to help her be strong in her friendships and understand what she can and can't control, letting go of the things she has no control over.</p>	<p>Saturday 15th February Pray for the young people of our town whose mental health is affected by the hours they spend using phones and technology. Pray for one young lady (age 12) who recently admitted to over 12 hours of phone use a day. Ask God to help her be strong and to break this addiction and for her to find fulfilment in a variety of other activities.</p>	<p>Sunday 16th February Please pray for all those who are currently homeless whether they be sleeping rough, in their cars or sofa surfing. Please pray for a breakthrough in the housing crisis and that accommodation can be found for all those that need and want it.</p>

“Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore He will rise up to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!” (Isaiah 30:18)

<p>Monday 17th February Please lift up the people of Bolton battling with addictions whether it be alcohol, drugs or gambling. God knows their struggles and their desire for freedom from the shackles that bind them. We ask for His healing hand to touch their hearts and minds, bringing them peace, strength and the courage to ask for the help they need.</p>	<p>Tuesday 18th February Please pray for Urban Outreach staff who work with young people and their families. Pray that the staff would have positive conversations with families and young people they interact with today. Please pray for good outcomes to any issues they are facing, and that the young people would see that there are adults who care about them.</p>	<p>Wednesday 19th February Please pray today for children who are looked after by foster parents or carers in Bolton. Pray that the relationships in these families would be good, and that carers would be understanding with the children and young people as they encounter all sorts of difficulties. Pray that the children make good choices regarding friendships and behaviour.</p>
<p>Thursday 20th February Please pray for all Urban Outreach staff and volunteers working throughout the charity, including food, adult working, children and family work or other areas. Please pray that staff would have a good day, with positive interactions and good outcomes. Pray that God will be present, and this would be seen by those we are helping.</p>	<p>Friday 21st February Please pray for those who are turning up at the Streetlife Drop-in, who are rough sleeping. They are struggling with their basic needs for warmth, rest, security, safety, food and drink. We ask that more accommodation will become available so they can access these basic needs.</p>	<p>Saturday 22nd February Please pray for those who have accessed temporary or permanent accommodation with the support of Street Life. Pray that they will feel secure and get the rest they need so they can build a future where they feel they belong and reach their full potential.</p>
<p>Sunday 23rd February In the gospel reading which will be read in many churches today, Jesus says “But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you.” (Luke 6:27) Pray that we followers of Jesus will be the ones who listen to his word, and bare the cross of love, even for our enemies.</p>	<p>Monday 24th February Please pray for the collection point at Brownlow Fold Church of the Nazarene, which will be running today. Pray that those who come will experience the transforming love of Jesus. Pray that the volunteers will have the wisdom to know how best to love and support each person who comes in.</p>	<p>Tuesday 25th February Join us in prayer for the persecuted church across the world. Pray that God would give them the courage, patience, and love to endure many trials. Pray that God would bind up the broken hearted and bring a word of comfort to those who are suffering in those places.</p>

“I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth, you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart because I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33)

<p>Wednesday 26th February A woman known to Eve's Space is sleeping in an empty house. It is infested with vermin and not fit to live in. We have been trying to encourage her to go to housing, but she won't attend as there are people who are a threat to her safety in the town centre. She no longer uses drugs and, apart from her homeless situation and all that brings, she is trying to be positive. Please pray for her situation to improve.</p>	<p>Thursday 27th February Eve's Space are working with a few women on probation that really do want to work. One woman is a first-time offender; she applied for and got an office job which is something she has always done. When she disclosed the offence, they retracted the job. She is a good hard worker and really wants a job. Please pray for a sympathetic employer that will give her a chance.</p>	<p>Friday 28th February Reach Out staff go on the street where women are working. It is so cold, dark, and dangerous but the need for money to feed a habit is why most of the women are out there. Many have already managed to turn their lives around – we've witnessed it! This encourages us to carry on and is evidence that God is with them in the darkest of times. They are never alone! Please pray for His continued intervention.</p>
<p>Saturday 1st March Ephesians 2v10 says: <i>"He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago."</i> Please join us today as we seek God for His direction for the ministry of Urban Outreach praying that we continue to always stay in step with God and in sync with Him, alone. Thank you.</p>	<p>Sunday 2nd March <i>"Be still and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10)</i> Please pray for opportunities today to do exactly this and in doing so open eyes afresh to our Heavenly Father and how He can bring us through the most complex and difficult circumstances. Let us thank Him for His Love and His faithfulness.</p>	<p>Monday 3rd March As the Church of the Nazarene (Brownlow Fold) open their doors today to welcome their local community, please pray that each person will experience Gods Love and the team will be able to support and signpost to relevant services. Thank you.</p>
<p>Tuesday 4th March The cost of living is hitting everybody, and as a result our food donations are greatly reduced which means that we have less to give despite there being a growing need for help. Please pray that people's hearts will be stirred. We thank God that He has always supplied for the needs of those who are vulnerable.</p>	<p>Wednesday 5th March Please pray for the team running the foodbank – ask that they be given energy, ideas and hope when things feel overwhelming. Please also pray for the people needing help, that they feel cared for and not alone and that they are signposted to the organisations that can help.</p>	<p>Thursday 6th March Please pray today for all those accessing our two pantry locations in the town. Pray that they will be blessed by what they receive and a burden will be lifted from them knowing they have food provision for the week and that there are many who care about their welfare and want to support them.</p>

"For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline." (2 Timothy 1:7)

<p>Friday 7th March Please pray for rest for all our staff and volunteers as we head into the weekend. Pray for refreshment of bodies and minds, and for them to be ready to enter a new week, supporting those who are on the margins within our town and most in need of our help.</p>	<p>Saturday 8th March The Friends of Fun Food team are doing a cooking demonstration at the Family, Food and Fun Day at Bright Meadows Family Hub today. Please pray that many families would come along, enjoy the activities and learn some new skills from the demonstration.</p>	<p>Sunday 9th March Friends of Fun Food has recently started a cooking course in Tonge Moor Academy. Please pray for the team's preparations, that the cooking sessions would run smoothly, and that the children would learn some new skills.</p>
<p>Monday 10th March Please pray for a young woman and her daughters who are struggling with damp in their house and suffering with health issues as a result. Pray they are listened to and receive the right support, so they are able to make their house a home.</p>	<p>Tuesday 11th March <i>"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)</i> In busy times it is easy to forget we have a Lord that will always support us. Give thanks today for knowing peace through God.</p>	<p>Wednesday 12th March Please pray for a young lady who is trying to get into a refuge for her and her son. The father of her child is currently on remand in prison for domestic violence. Pray she gets a place before he is released, and that they can go on to have a safe and peaceful future.</p>
<p>Thursday 13th March Please pray for a lady who desperately needs a managed move. She has been abstinent from alcohol for 4 years now but lives where there is a communal entrance and lots of people go in and out who are either drinking or taking drugs. She has done amazing, but her own front door would be the final touch.</p>	<p>Friday 14th March Pray for all our food team volunteers who give so generously of their time in so many ways to help with the smooth running of the food hub here at Urban Outreach Bolton. We really wouldn't be able to do a fraction of what we do without the hard work of so many. Join us as we give thanks.</p>	<p>Saturday 15th March Pray for all our Churches who support the work of Urban Outreach. Please give thanks for all donations that are received and for all the prayer support that comes from so many Churches.</p>

"The Lord is good to those whose hope is in Him, to the one who seeks Him ..." (Lamentations 3:25)

<p>Sunday 16th March Join us in prayer for peace and hope across our town. Pray that Urban Outreach is further empowered and enabled, alongside other public, private and voluntary services, to meet the needs of people in Bolton. Pray particularly for positive collaboration between services, and for the joy of the Holy Spirit to be felt in the hearts of all.</p>	<p>Monday 17th March As Urban Outreach prepares to serve people through the Storehouse food provision at Brownlow Fold Church of the Nazarene today, pray for each individual and family represented. Pray that they receive more than just practical and emotional help and sense the presence of the transformative power of Jesus through their interactions with our services and supporters. Amen.</p>	<p>Tuesday 18th March In Street Life we have another older gentleman who is waiting for a detox for his alcoholism and is in a very poor physical state. Please pray for Street Life as they continue to support this gentleman through the process, that a place will become available, and he will be able to lead a better life free from the addiction.</p>
<p>Wednesday 19th March Praise the lord for the Street Life volunteers who give their valuable time and skills to the Drop-in each week. Pray they will be blessed for their commitment and equipped with the wisdom to reassure each person who comes through the door. "He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others." 2 Corinthians 1 v 4.</p>	<p>Thursday 20th March Let us spend time praying for those who attended the Street Life Drop-in yesterday that they will receive hope for the situations they find themselves in. And please pray for Street Life and as they seek to find accommodation and support the growing number and that God would equip them with wisdom and guidance.</p>	<p>Friday 21st March Please continue to pray for those people who are having to resort to either sleeping rough on the streets, staying in their vehicles or paying to stay in hotels and B&B's. Pray Street Life would be able and equipped to find more new good private landlords in the town and out of borough. Then Jesus Wept!</p>
<p>Saturday 22nd March Please pray for the social work teams in Bolton. Please thank God for the amazing work that is done by social workers and pray that they would be helped and guided to make decisions that best support the young people, families and adults that they work with.</p>	<p>Sunday 23rd March Please pray for a young person who is looked after in Bolton and often feels lonely due to not seeing her family. Please pray that this young person recognises that she has so much purpose and that she is so loved. Please pray for good friends and supportive adults to encourage her to dream big for her life!</p>	<p>Monday 24th March Please pray for all Bolton residents who are on probation. Pray that God grants them the strength to make positive choices and the wisdom to learn from their mistakes. Ask that they be surrounded by services who will encourage them and support their journey toward a new beginning.</p>

"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me." (John 10:27)

<p>Tuesday 25th March Please pray for the children who we see on the Children and Families' team. Pray that they will know peace and they are covered by Gods protection</p>	<p>Wednesday 26th March Please pray that Urban Outreach staff will be God's hands and feet and through us the people of Bolton will know God's Love.</p>	<p>Thursday 27th March We thank God for the Children and Families team – for the way they get on together and the way they support one another through sometimes difficult work in schools and in the return interviews for RUNA. Please pray for protection – physical, emotional and spiritual upon the team as they go about this challenging work.</p>
<p>Friday 28th March Pray for all those young people in Bolton who don't want to return home after a missing episode because of the environment in which they live. Sometimes that includes neglect, domestic violence or drug addiction within the family. Pray for protection for all those concerned and that the right support can be put in place for these young people.</p>	<p>Saturday 29th March Please pray for the establishment of a new project within our Children and Families Team that will aim to support children at risk of Serious Youth Violence. We ask that God will guide this project and the young people it encounters to free them from fear and danger.</p>	<p>Sunday 30th March Please pray for the young people we encounter through our RUNA project that are currently in young offenders' institutes. May they know God's love for them, and may He intervene in their lives to disrupt the criminal activity they have been exploited into.</p>
<p>Monday 31st March We are humbled by the strength and resilience of those we serve. Please thank God for entrusting Urban Outreach with the opportunity to be a source of comfort, support, and hope in their lives. Thank Him for the lessons they teach us about perseverance, compassion and the power of human connection. Pray that we may always approach our work with empathy, patience, and a genuine desire to make a positive impact even in the most difficult of circumstances. Please ask that He help us be a reflection of His love and to bring light to those who may feel lost or forgotten. We are so grateful for the chance to be His instruments of peace and healing.</p>		

"The Lord will protect you and keep you safe from all dangers. The Lord will protect you now and always wherever you go."

(Psalm 121:7-8)